

SELECTED.

A SCRATCH AT RANK.

The following story, says the New York Evening Gazette, if applied to matters where doubtful right and doubtful honor were involved, may go far to show the result of concession, if done in good feeling:

Mr. Editor: I was once dining at the hospitable residence of one of our Consuls abroad in the Mediterranean, where two officers of our Navy were also at the table. After the cloth was removed, and the bottle had circulated, a discussion arose about relative rank. Both these officers were of equal rank, being both "Master Commandants." One, however, was "flag Captain" on board the Commodore's ship, and the other commanded a sloop of war. I believe the latter, by this circumstance, was a little in advance, in temporary rank, over the former. Be this as it may, "the flag Captain" was by far the best natured of the two, whilst all the landmen believed that he, as flag Captain, and on board the biggest sloop, "a double-decker," was surely the greatest man of the two.

After a long discussion, in which this "flag captain" tried (rather facetiously, perhaps,) to make it appear that he outranked the sloop of war commander, the latter gathered all his argument into what he called a "real clincher." "Now, sir," says he, "suppose I was on shore, and I went down to the wharf or landing place, and not finding my boat there, saw you landing in your boat from the flag ship, and I told you I wanted your boat to go on board my vessel, without asking you whether the same suited your convenience or not—now, I ask you to say what, according to rank and discipline, would be your answer?"

The "flag captain" looked at him with assumed sternness, and after repeating the words to know that he exactly understood him, saying—"I, the flag Captain of the fleet—commanding in reality the Commodore's double-decker—just landing in my own boat, and being told by you that you wanted my boat to go on board your little sloop of war, and without asking if it suited my convenience or not—is that the question, sir?"

"Yes, sir, that is the question precisely, sir." "Then, sir, my answer is, if it cost me an arrest and trial by Court Martial, the next hour—aye, sir, if the Secretary of the Navy himself, or even the President, stood present, I should turn to you, sir, in the presence of them all, and the boat's crew in the bargain—and looking you straight in the face, and letting you see that I understood my rank and my dignity, as well as you did yours—I would turn to the officer of my boat, and tell him, in a clear and distinct tone, so that no mistake should occur about it—"Mr. Officer, back your boat in, sir, and take Captain R—on board his ship, and follow his direction, sir."

*** There was during this discussion a serious and anxious stillness on the part of all the listeners—every one regretting, and every one fearing, a fatal result; but this reply set the table in a roar, and even Captain R—, who found that every thing had been conceded to him, looked alone as if he had rather not have joined the battle. But what could he say? And yet he did say a pretty good thing, under the circumstances.

"Well," says he, "I think it would have been better for me to let your boat alone, and hire a skiff, rather than to get such

A SCRATCH."

A WORD TO YOUNG MEN.

Wishing and sighing, and imagining, and dreaming of greatness, said William Wirt, will not make you great. But cannot a young man command his energies? Read Foster on decision of character. That book will tell you what is in your power to accomplish. You must gird up your loins and go to work with all the indomitable energy of Hannibal scaling the Alps. It is your duty to make the most of time, talents, and opportunities.

Alfred, King of England, though he performed more business than any one of his subjects, found time to study.

Franklin, in the midst of his labors, found time to dive into the depths of philosophy, and explored an untrodden path of science.

Frederick the Great, with an empire at his direction, in the midst of war, and on the eve of battle, found time to revel in the charms of philosophy, and feast on the luxuries of science.

Napoleon, with Europe at his disposal, with kings at his ante-chamber, and at the head of thousands of men, whose destinies were suspended on his arbitrary pleasure, found time to converse with books.

And young men who are confined to labor or business even twelve hours a day, may take an hour and a half of what is left for study, and which will amount to two months in the course of a year.

THE REALLY RICH.

There is no greater fallacy than the supposition that opulence consists in the enjoyments of a large income. The man whose expenditure equals his income is in reality a poor man, whatever position he may occupy in the eye of the world; while a person moving in a far lower sphere may in truth be wealthy, if his income be more than proportionate to his pretensions. There is no species of poverty more urgent, or distressing, than that which seeks its concealment in the display of opulence; nor is there any which throws so many temptations in the way of honesty. The riches rejected by the virtuous poverty of the ancient Greeks and Romans, would have bought half the golden satraps of the East, and it will generally be prodigate. Riches have little allurements to those who have no expensive tastes or habits to gratify—who have felt the joys of temperance and the consolations of integrity. However limited our means may be, we shall be

among the number of the truly opulent if we live within them, and live contentedly. The perpetual ambition to be thought greater than we are, is a source of contempt to those above us, of derision to those below, and of continual discomfort to ourselves. Nor can the mesh thrown over our circumstances by the artifices of vanity long deceive one—except, perhaps, a few strangers, who are hardly worth deceiving. Our means, as well as our characters, will sooner or later become known, in spite of any disguise with which we may attempt to invest them; and the detection in the use of the instruments of deception, only shows that whatever other gifts we may have, we at least are deficient in honesty. The really rich, then, are not persons merely of large means, but persons of large means relatively with the positions they desire to hold in society. A poor duke would be a rich artisan, simply because in the latter case there are not the same demands for a large expenditure. The same relation holds through all classes of society; so that a man to become rich has only to descend from the pedestal on which his pride has exalted him, and conform to the usages of less ambitious men. Of all things in this wide world pride is the most expensive; and extravagant habit acquired, subtracts a proportionate quantity of wealth, and impoverishes the person who yields to it. Every man has the secret of becoming rich who resolves to live within his means; and independence is one of the most effectual safeguards of honesty.

THE DUTIES OF WOMAN.—It is a paltry spirit which would always detract from the elevated task which woman has to perform. Well has it been asked who can elevate its dignity? Not to make laws, not to lead armies, not to govern empires, but to form those by whom the laws are made, and armies led, and empires governed; to guard from the slightest taint of possible infirmity the frail and yet spotless creature whose moral no less than physical being must be derived from her; to inspire those doctrines, to animate those sentiments which generations yet unborn, and nations yet uncivilized, shall learn to bless; to soften firmness into mercy, and chasten honor into refinement; to exalt generosity into virtue by her soothing cares; to allay the anguish of the body, and the far worse anguish of the mind; by her tenderness to disarm passions; by her purity, to triumph over sense; to cheer the scholar, sinking under his toil; to console the statesman for the ingratitude of a mistaken people; to offer consolation for the hopes that are blighted, for friends that are perfidious, for happiness that has passed away.

Such is her vocation—the couch of the tortured sufferer, the prison of the deserted friend, the cross of a rejected Saviour; these are the scenes of woman's excellence, these are the theatres on which her greatest triumphs have been achieved. Such is her destiny, to visit the forsaken, to attend to the neglected, when monarchs abandon, when justice persecutes, when brethren and disciples fly, to remain unshaken and unchanged; and to exhibit on this lower world a type of that love, pure, constant, and ineffable, which, in another world, we are taught to believe the best of virtues.

FOR THE LADIES.—The most beautiful array of flowers may be produced by taking an elder stalk, punching out the pith, placing within the stalk a variety of seeds whose flowers blossom about the same time, and burying the stalk; and when blossoming, it has various kinds of flowers, according to the seed planted in the stalk. This is a beautiful discovery, and well worth the experiment. Cut a small branch of elder from a thrifty plant, place it in a jar partly filled with rain water, so that the lower end of the branch may be immersed about half an inch in the water. Place this in the sun in an open room, and in about fifteen or twenty days, small roots will shoot out from the end of the branch, presenting a beautiful appearance. After these roots are extended two or three inches, the branch may be set out in moist earth, and frequently watered, it will grow rapidly, and soon form a large thrifty stalk. Ladies who are fond of flowers, may easily propagate a pleaser in this manner, and in a few months multiply those beautiful plants to an indefinite extent.

MARRIAGES IN CHINA.—In China, children are often affianced in early infancy, and even before they are born. The will of the future spouse is rarely consulted. These affiances are very difficult to break, especially if the request comes from the females. The civil authority compels them, willing or unwilling, to marry those to whom their parents promised them. As several years elapse between the first engagement and the marriage, it sometimes happens that the boy dies. If the girl then declares that she adheres to her first engagement, and will not contract another, she has a right on making this declaration before the proper tribunal, to receive a certain amount of money, fixed by law. She may appropriate this money to her own use, or expend it in building a monument, which will be a perpetual testimony of her resolution. It is a kind of marriage with the shade of the dead. In the Kiang-Nan, these monuments are often seen along the great canals, the public roads, and sometimes before the doors of houses. The most conspicuous or most frequented places are always chosen for their erection. These monuments are in the form of gate ways. They consist of two large stones, placed erect at a certain distance from each other, on which a third is laid horizontally, on which is engraved the name of the person in honor of whom it is erected. All these stones are more or less adorned with sculpture, but the last is loaded with ornaments.

DISGRACEFUL.—At a meeting held in Burlington, Kentucky, by Bros. Edwards and Folger, an old man present arose and gave the following incident, as the reason why he should sign a pledge: "Last winter I was called upon by a Coroner's jury, in the case of a man who was found dead in the woods. He, doubtless, had been intoxicated, and in that condition had lost his way, and frozen to death. A flask, partly filled with whiskey, was in his pocket. Five of the Jury of Inquest drank the contents of the bottle, which was taken from the dead man's pocket."

AN ARGUMENT.—A "hoosier" (of rather scanty means) visited New York lately, with introductory letters, for the purpose of buying a considerable amount of goods upon credit. The jobbers to whom he applied were very courteous, but didn't exactly like to trade. "What's the matter?" enquired the buyer. "Nothing particular," was the reply, "only we don't much like this credit business." "Well, but I don't ask for only thirty days," "Very true, but you might die, you know." "Die?—why who the d—ever heard of any body's dying in thirty days?"

THE WASHINGTONIAN

WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1845.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.

To citizens of Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria, the WASHINGTONIAN will be delivered every Saturday, at FIFTEEN CENTS per month, payable monthly.

Single papers (sent by mail) will be TWO DOLLARS per year, payable in advance, in all cases. Any person remitting us FIVE DOLLARS will receive THREE papers, to any address, one year.

For TEN DOLLARS we will mail SEVEN papers one year. Under this we cannot go, as the expenses attending the conducting of a paper in this city is almost as great as in any part of the United States.

All persons friendly to the cause are requested to aid us, by procuring subscribers.

Postmasters are authorized, under the law, to remit the names of subscribers and money.

All communications to the publishers must be free of postage.

Beside endeavoring to forward the cause of Total Abstinence, we will do our best to make the WASHINGTONIAN a good family paper in other respects, by a selection of solid moral literature, the events of the day, foreign news, &c.; and during the sessions of Congress we will give, in a condensed form, such of the proceedings of that body as may be useful to our readers.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT.

It will be seen, by a reference to our terms on the first page, that we have reduced the price for advertising to nearly one-half the usual rates. We are enabled to effect this by doing our own work, and thus induce and enable all persons in business to have access to our advertising columns.

We start this paper with a circulation superior to any in the District, the National Intelligencer probably excepted, and have assurance that it will be doubled in a short time, this paper, then, is, and will be, the best means of communication for business persons with the public. Some object on account of the paper being issued but once a week; but here we think they are blind to their own interest. On reflection they will readily perceive the difference between a political and a family paper—the first is merely glanced at, and thrown aside, while the latter is retained and read by every member in family.

Unaided by the patronage of Government, and our creed excluding a portion of the advertising community, we expect the support of the sober, industrious, and orderly portion of our citizens.

EXECUTION OF THE LAWS.

It may not be true that the "world is governed too much." On this abstract question, we feel no disposition to commit ourselves, at present. A great deal, doubtless, could be said, for, and against, this proposition. If our object were merely to furnish matter for our columns, or to show how learned or metaphysical we could be, a sufficient field is offered by the suggestion of this question. But, would our readers be satisfied with our decision? Or, would they be benefitted by its discussion? Could any practical good result from such an examination? We confess that the maxim sounds well enough, and it might turn out, upon proper inquiry into its merits, that it contains a most wholesome truth. Or, it might be ascertained that the facts of the case do not justify the conclusion, and that it embodies the spirit of restless, lawless misrule. With this very difficult problem we shall not attempt to interfere. The state of our work,—the excessive heat of the weather,—with subjects and matters pressing upon our attention, which we cannot understand, and which are, certainly, of much more importance, in our judgment, forbid any such attempt.

But, without undertaking to decide this very knotty point, we may be allowed to suggest, as our own opinion, that it is a great folly, and a most grievous wrong, to retain upon our statute books laws obsolete or inoperative, and which have never been repealed or rescinded. Our present complaint is, not that "the world is governed too much," but that we have laws piled upon laws, enactments added to enactments, which have been justified and approved by the public voice, and requisites to the public welfare, which are, to all intents and purposes, a dead letter. Nor do we merely intend to point to laws, which the cunning, the artful, and the depraved, have it in their power to elude, and against which no wisdom in legislation can provide; but to those, the provisions of which are plain, clear, indisputable,—the violations of which are equally palpable, and frequent, and in regard to which no attempt is made, on the part of those charged with their execution, to have them respected and obeyed. Better, in our judgment, would it be to abrogate all such laws. Let our legislators look into this subject, and have expunged from our statute books all laws, arbitrary, oppressive, unjust, or necessarily inoperative. Let the laws by which we are to be governed, be as few and simple in their provisions as possible, so that all may understand, and yield a cheerful and ready obedience to them.

But whenever and wherever these laws are found to be necessary and wholesome, let them be enforced, at all hazards, and without the slightest respect to persons. Let the proud, the rich, the aristocratic, be taught to understand, that they are as much amenable to those laws as the humblest citizen of the land. In this respect, at least, let us have "no privileged orders" among us. In theory we spurn such an assumption—while it frequently happens, in the practical operation of our laws, that as broad and deep distinctions are permitted to exist, as ever distinguished the nobility of other lands. We intend these remarks, at present, to be general—applying to every portion of the country, and in reference to all existing laws, and their faithful execution. Consistency demands a reform in this particular. The enlightened spirit of the age requires it. Public justice and public policy, alike require the modification, or repeal of existing laws, found to be injurious or burdensome to the community; or their due enforcement, by those into whose hands this power has been committed, until so modified or repealed. Let not the officers of justice—those who have been invested with Executive functions—shrink from the performance of

duties imposed by the public will. It is not their right to judge whether laws are wholesome or otherwise. Other tribunals determine this question for them; and it is their solemn and imperative duty, so see that the laws are faithfully executed. Their duty may be frequently extremely painful; but the Executive officer, bound generally by the solemnities of an oath, should not permit either his personal feelings, or his personal interests, to turn him aside from the performance of duty, however painful. If the weak, the timid, the time-serving, are ever found occupying such positions, let the people themselves, by early, fair, and constitutional means, apply the proper corrective, and supply their places with the honest—the fearless—the patriotic. It is no time to blink this question. It is one which points to a great and increasing evil, and the remedy cannot be too early applied. We are the advocates of law. We are of the number of those who have no objections to be "governed," constitutionally and properly. And we have the right to expect that the laws shall be faithfully enforced. Without looking beyond the limits of our own city, is it not true that we have abundance of law to restrain the vicious, to correct existing abuses, and to promote the best interests of the community? Why is it, then, in regard to some of them, that they are violated in the most open and undisguised manner, and no attempt made to enforce the prescribed penalties? We have our eye, at this moment, on several ordinances of this character, salutary and beneficial in a high degree—with a large majority of the people in their favor—which are almost entirely overlooked, in regard to their execution. We invite, most respectfully, the Chief Executive of our city, for whom we entertain a very high respect, to turn his attention to this subject, and to require from all his subordinates, the faithful and fearless execution of existing laws. Let every man be taught to feel, that our laws are not designed as mere bug-bears to frighten children; but, founded in the best principles of social order and happiness, are to be obeyed, in all their provisions, until public sentiment, fully and fairly expressed, shall require their repeal. No inequality, in this respect, should be permitted to exist. With prompt and fearless hands, let those who are charged with their execution, maintain the supremacy of the law, and public order, virtue, and happiness will be promoted.

Hereafter, we may take occasion to refer more particularly to some of these laws, and to urge, in a more special manner, their due execution. We cannot, in view of the position we occupy, and our just regard for the welfare of society, consent to be silent, when its best interests are at stake.

By reference to the proceedings, which may be found in another column, it will be seen that the Temperance Union for the District of Columbia, has gone into successful operation. By resolution, the District is to be divided into convenient districts, and mass meetings are to be held in each, at such time and place as may be appointed, under the direction of the Union. They have determined to leave no part of this District without agitation upon this important subject. They extend an invitation to the Ministers, and all others who have ability to advocate this cause, to come forward, and work! work! work! And this work is to commence by their first quarterly meeting on the 4th of July. Let us see how many strong hands and firm hearts will be there; let us hear how many voices will unite, on that day, to declare eternal enmity to the greatest tyrant that has ever held rule over the mental, moral, and physical powers of man.

We republish the following resolution, passed by the CONVENTION held on the 15th ult., believing that a large majority of the members of that body have entirely forgotten the intent of said resolution:

Resolved, That we, as the friends of temperance, will do all in our power, by way of subscribing and obtaining subscribers and advertisements, to sustain the Washingtonian, as a temperance journal in this District.

¶ We are requested to call the attention of the members of EQUAL DIVISION, No. 6, Sons of Temperance, to the next regular meeting on Tuesday evening next.—See advertisement.

This Division, together with POTOMAC Division, No. 5, of Georgetown, bid fair to be of great advantage to the cause of Total Abstinence. They are all working-men in the cause, and large additions of brothers are made by them at every weekly meeting.

THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE, of the District, intend having a steamboat excursion on the 24th inst; in which the friends of the cause throughout the District are invited to participate.—See advertisement.

¶ Our friends will recollect that we are prepared to execute PRINTING in all its variety, at our publication office, Sixth street, south of Pennsylvania avenue, and will be thankful to receive their orders.

The New York ORGAN, we observe, will hereafter be edited by Dr. R. T. TRALL, a gentleman well known as the author of the Prize Essay, recently published by the Temperance General Council of New York. Dr. TRALL, in his introductory address in the ORGAN of June 7, says:

"We trust we shall ever appreciate that fraternal sympathy which should unite the hearts and combine the efforts of all those who, in humble or exalted spheres of life, do battle with the common enemy, and extend and reciprocate that courtesy and unassuming charity, which should peculiarly distinguish the advocates of the cause of crushed and suffering humanity. To be instrumental, in some degree, in furthering the greatest moral enterprise of

this, or any age—to be a useful though feeble co-laborer with those who have unflinchingly resolved to prosecute incessant war, until death and extermination of the demon foe shall proclaim a land 'redeemed, regenerated, dethralled'—is all we hope and all we ask."

Mr. H. H. DENISON, who has heretofore had charge of the editorial department of the Organ, concludes his valedictory with the following whole-souled paragraph:

"Although no longer acting in this particular sphere, I shall continue to devote as much of my time and humble abilities as I consistently can, to the promotion of the temperance cause. With a single exception, it is, in my opinion, the highest, noblest, and most truly honorable work in which man can engage; and I humbly trust I shall never lose any part of the too little interest I now feel in it until the whole human family shall have been freed from the dreadful slavery under which a great portion of them are now so keenly suffering."

At the late session of the Legislature of the State of New York, an act was passed, giving power to the majority of citizens of each county, to decide whether licenses to sell ardent spirits should be granted or not. The following three decisions we copy from the New York Organ:

At the charter election recently held in the village of Glen's Falls, the license ticket prevailed by a large majority.

The Excise Committee of the city of Rochester, have made a report, which has been accepted, "in favor of restricting licenses to wholesale dealers, and to as many taverns as the wants of the travelling public may require." Better take short steps forward, than stand still, or advance backwards.

The town of Hamburg, Erie county, has resolved, by the unanimous vote of the Board of Excise, to grant no licenses to vend "rum and ruin," for one year. It should have been, "henceforth, for all future time to come—forever!"

ADVERTISEMENTS.

"Here silver pence are turn'd to golden pounds."

THIS DAY!

CLASS 24, FOR 1845.

To be drawn in Alexandria, D. C., on Saturday, June 14th, 1845.

SPLendid CAPITALS!

30,000 Dollars	10,000 Dollars
6,000 "	5,000 "
4,000 "	3,970 "
5 prizes of \$2,000	5 prizes of \$1,500
TWENTY-FIVE of \$1,000, &c. &c. &c.	
75 numbers—13 drawn ballots.	
Tickets only \$10—Halves \$5—Quarters \$2.50	
Certificates of packages of 25 whole tickets \$130	
Do do 25 half do 65	
Do do 25 quarter do 32.50	
Call at	A. W. KIRKWOOD'S,
	One door east of Browns Hotel.

EQUAL DIVISION, No. 6,

Sons of Temperance, D. C.

The regular weekly meeting of this Division will be held on TUESDAY evening, 17th inst., at their room over the Washington Library, 11th street.

As it is expected that business of the utmost importance to the interests of the Division will be brought forward, it is hoped that every Brother will be present. The Division will be opened precisely at the appointed time, (8 o'clock.) Brothers of sister Divisions are invited to be present with us.

By order of the W. P. CHARLES BISHOP, R. S.

June 14

CABINET WAREHOUSES.

H. HARDY,

F. ST. NEAR TREASURY DEPARTMENT, KEEPS a general assortment of FURNITURE. HOUSES FURNISHED at the lowest prices, for cash.

FURNALS attended at the shortest notice. FURNITURE REPAIRED, &c.

All orders promptly attended to. Terms cash. June 14—tf 2

PLEASURE EXCURSION.

THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE ORDER OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE respectfully invite the friends of Total Abstinence of the District to unite with them in an Excursion of Pleasure down the Potomac on Tuesday evening, the 24th inst.

The safe and commodious steamer COLUMBIA, Captain Guther, has been engaged, and will leave Georgetown at one o'clock; Washington at half-past two o'clock; Navy Yard at three o'clock; and Alexandria at four o'clock; and thence proceed down the Potomac, affording those on board an opportunity of landing at Fort Washington; after which they will continue their trip, and return to Washington by twelve o'clock P. M. An excellent Band of Music will be in attendance.

The following Brothers compose the committee for the reception of the Ladies:

Darius Clagett	Dr. Floardo Howard
Lambert Tree	J. L. Henshaw
S. Holmes	William Whitney
John D. Clark	Christopher Cammack
Ulysses Ward	J. B. Wingerd
Selby Parker	George Savage.

Committee of Arrangements.
Charles W. Butler, Jr. L. A. G. Bright
R. W. Davis, of Alex. Z. K. Offutt
J. A. Burns, of Geo'n H. S. Davis.

A limited number of tickets have been issued, which may be procured by any member of the above committees.

TS—Tickets \$1, for a gentleman and two ladies. June 14

NO HUMB! NO HUMB!!

STILL prepared to compete with the numerous candidates for public favor in the line of my business, I would respectfully state to my numerous patrons that I am still occupying the same old stand, on THIRTEENTH STREET, two doors north of PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, where I am to be found at all times, ready to receive and execute all jobs in the most finished style of the art. I would most respectfully submit the following scale of prices:

Cleansing and Dying Coats of every description	\$1 00
Cleansing and Dying Pants of every description	50
Silk and Woolen Dresses, of all colors	1 00
Ladies Merino Cloaks	1 00
Florence Braids and Straw Bonnets, dyed and pressed	27 1/2
Parasols and Sun-shades	25
Window Curtains, of every description, 12 1/2 cents per yard	
Guaranteeing the work done at the above prices to give satisfaction in all cases.	

WILLIAM MORELAND. June 14